

**REMARKS**

Claims 2-12, 14-28, 30-40 and 42-51 are pending in the application. Claims 2-7, 14-18, 25, 28, 30-40 and 42-51 are allowed. Claims 8-12, 19-24, 26 and 27 are objected to for specified informalities. (The Office Action also indicates claims 25 and 36 are objected to.)

Claim 8 is objected to because of the term "estimator/subtractor" appearing in line 18. The Office Action suggests this term should be changed to --estimator and subtractor--. In response, Applicants amend the claim as suggested in the Office Action.

Claim 19 is objected to because of the term "skew" appearing in line 3. The Office Action suggests this term should be changed to --skew values--. In response, Applicants amend the claim by changing "a clock skew" to read --clock skew values-- substantially as suggested in the Office Action.

Claims 8, 12, 20, 25, 26 and 36 are objected to for being in improper form because "a multiple dependent claim may refer in the alternative to only one set of claims."

Applicants respectfully traverse the objection to these claims. All are in proper form:

Claim 8, for example, is dependent on "any one of claims 2 to 4." This particular construction is in proper form and refers to base claims in the alternative. Applicants respectfully refer the Examiner to examples of acceptable wording for multiple dependent claims that are set forth in MPEP 601.01(n) part A. Claims 12, 20, 25 and 26 recite a similar construction, each being dependent on "any one of" a specified set of claims.

Claim 36 is not a multiple dependent claim. It is dependent only on claim 34.

Applicants amend the claims as set forth above and respectfully request reconsideration of the claims that are objected to.

Respectfully submitted,



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**Certificate of Transmission**

I certify that this Response to Office Action is being transmitted by facsimile on May 30, 2006 to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at telephone number (571) 273-8300.

  
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